



LaTava Shrewsbury/Chadron State University

Chadron State's Beau Sheets runs upfield during a reception against Fort Hays State. Getting ready to throw a block for Sheets is Brandon Soden. Sheets is a graduate of Colby High School.

Colby grad having excellent year

By CON MARSHALL

Chadron State sports i

If Beau Sheets hadn't suffered a broken collarbone while diving for a pass during a preseason scrimmage last fall, there's a good chance he'd now be teaching physics and coaching football at a high school someplace in Nebraska or Kansas instead of playing football for the Chadron State Eagles. However, he's not sorry how things have turned out.

The diminutive wide receiver had the best game of his college football career last Saturday when he caught seven passes for 115 yards and two touchdowns during the Eagles' 43-22 victory at Bemidji State. He also returned three kickoffs 92 yards, including a 47-yarder.

After just two games this season, Sheets has 10 receptions for 143 yards and has averaged 31.6 yards on five kickoff returns.

"I was pretty discouraged after I got hurt last fall," said Sheets, a native of Colby. "I was looking forward to having a good season, doing my student teaching and then graduating in May. But things have a way of working out for the best. I think it (the injury) was a blessing in disguise. Now I can work on my master's degree and play on a great football team. We're off to a fast

start and I think we'll keep it up."

Just 5-foot-8, 165 pounds, Sheets proves that dynamite frequently comes in small packages. He is often able to use his quickness and elusiveness to good advantage on the football field. He entered the 2003 season with 42 receptions for 573 yards, and had another 525 yards in kick returns to his credit. He averaged 35.1 yards on nine kickoff returns during the 2001 season, when he helped the Eagles lead NCAA Division II in that category.

While Sheets is the smallest of the CSC receivers, he's also among the strongest. He had a 235-pound bench press and a 265-pound clean and jerk last spring during team testing.

Sheets had an exceptional high school career. He caught 52 passes for 850 yards and 12 touchdowns as a senior at Colby High. He also was the starting point guard on the basketball team and ran the 800 meters in under two minutes. In addition, he was an honor student and the sweetheart of one of the most attractive girls in his class.

After his wife, the former Tara Warta of Colby, spent her freshman year at Colby Community College, she followed her Beau to Chadron State. They were the Winter Magic Formal king and queen at CSC in

February 2002 and were married the following summer. Both graduated in May and are expecting an addition to the family next spring.

There's a good chance their offspring will be intelligent and athletic. Both Beau and Tara graduated from CSC with grade point averages of at least 3.75 and she was an all-state tennis player, the starting point guard for the girls' basketball team and a sprinter on the track team at Colby High. She majored in elementary education at CSC.

Having grown up in Colby, just 100 miles west of Hays, Sheets said he anticipated he would attend Fort Hays State, which is the Eagles' opponent Saturday. However, his high school coach was Mike Gottsch, former Chadron State graduate assistant who convinced Sheets to visit CSC before making a decision.

"I had no idea where Chadron was," Sheets remembers. "I thought it was probably somewhere near Lincoln.

But when I came up for a visit and saw the pine trees and people ice fishing at the city dams, I decided Chadron State was the place for me."

Like he said, things often seem to have a way of working out for the best.

New K.U. coach coming to town

By RICH EPP

Free Press Contributor

New University of Kansas basketball coach Bill Self, will be the keynote speaker for the first ever Northwest Kansas pre-season basketball dinner on Monday, Oct. 6 hosted by City Limits Convention Center in Colby.

Self was named head coach this past April. Self, one of the premier basketball coaches in the entire United States, previously served as the basketball coach at the University of Illinois. Prior to Illinois, he

had coaching stops at Tulsa University and Oral Roberts University. Self has taken all the previous programs to new heights and hopes to bring a national championship back to Lawrence.

Other speakers at the dinner will include Texas Christian University head women's basketball coach Jeff Mittie.

Mittie has taken TCU to four straight NCAA tournaments and has established a new standard for the Lady Horned Frogs.

Both Colby Community College

head coaches, Brian Ostermann (men) and Tom Stephens (women) will preview their upcoming seasons.

The Lady Trojans come off a 4th place Jayhawk West finish and a spot in the final eight of Region VI, while the Trojan men finished 26-7, second in the Jayhawk West and reached the final four of the Region VI Tournament.

For information regarding the pre-season dinner, contact City Limits Convention Center in Colby at (785) 460-0131.

Eagle runners capture top spots

The Colby Eagles sent their cross country runners to two locations on Tuesday — the boys to Leoti and the girls to Oakley. Both finished in first place.

The results:

Boys individual — Shane Stover, 2nd, 20:23; Derek Elliott, 9th, 21:05; Darren Sporing, 12th, 21:28; Nick Howard, 14th, 21:42; Fur Finley, 16th, 21:57; Jordan Cranston, 20th, 22:37; and Trevor Siebert, 26th, 23:32.

Team placings, scores — Colby, 1st, 53; Holcomb, 2nd, 63; Tribune, 3rd, 86; Brewster, 4th, 103; Leoti, 5th, 106; Syracuse, 6th, 107; and Scott City, 7th, 168.

Junior varsity boys — Chris Gordon, 7th, 22:26; Tanner Decker, 8th, 22:37; Todd Ohlrogge, 13th, 25:08; and Stuart Aiken, 15th, 26:03.

Girls individual — Jessica Stephens, 1st, 12:16; Ivy Ramsey, 2nd, 12:38; Erika Erickson, 3rd, 12:47; Zanae Baird, 7th, 14:01; Lauren Kaiser, 9th, 14:07; Emily Sloan, 11th, 14:24; Marcia Kaus, 12th, 14:28; and Brandi Stupka, 21st, 16:22.

Team placings, scores — Colby, 1st, 22; Oakley, 2nd, 41; and Wheatland, 3rd, 65.

Comments from coach Bob Mannebach: "The boys varsity traveled to Leoti and the girls var-

sity to Oakley...and both came home with a first place finish. The girls team had a fantastic run with some great times. The boys had another good run but their times were not as good as usual; however, they were good enough to win the meet. The jayvee runners also did well with Chris Gordon and Tanner Decker receiving a medal.

"Jessica Stephens, Ivy Ramsey, Erika Erickson, Zanae Baird, Lauren Kaiser, Shane Stover and Derek Elliott medaled for the varsity.

"Both teams are realizing how good they can be if they continue to work hard."

Coach pleased with jayvee tennis team

The Colby Eagle junior varsity tennis team faced Scott City and WaKeeney in matches held Sept. 4 at Scott city and Sept. 11 at WaKeeney.

Here are the results:

At Scott City (players could place first through eighth) — #1 singles, Alisha Talsma took 5th with 21 wins for the day; #2 singles, Bailey Klinger took 3rd with 22 wins; #1 doubles, Jacquie Fry and Nikole Schroeder took 3rd with 21 wins; and #2 doubles, Andrea Barker and Kaylie Dugger took 3rd with 21 wins.

At WaKeeney (players could place first through eighth) — #1 singles, Jennifer McMahan took 8th with 3 wins for the day; #2 singles, Tess Baumfalk took 6th with 11 wins; #1 doubles, Angela Rasmussen and Rashaun Wilson

took 5th with 16 wins; and #2 doubles, Michelle Myers and Liz Erickson took 5th with 16 wins.

Coach Tom Shoaff's comments: "It is outstanding to see these players after only two weeks of practice

and even with some playing tennis for the first time ranking this high this early in the season. This year will prove to be a great ye

"ar for junior varsity Lady Eagle tennis!"

Brewster runners place high

The Brewster cross country team has been showing lots of potential in the early part of the season, placing 5th at Quinter and 4th at Leoti.

Here are the individual results (Quinter meet first, Leoti second): Mark Luckert, time, 19:48, 17th place; and 21:16, 10th place.

Karman Selby, 19:01, 6th; and 20:58, 7th.

Jonathan Collett, 20:15, 22nd; and 22:47, 23rd.

Branson Gilley, 22:04, 48th; and 24:00, 31st.

Paul Flanders, 23:17, 62nd; and 24:30, 34th.

Team points: at Quinter, 125 for 5th place; and at Leoti, 103 for 4th place.

Junior varsity runner, Aaron Horinek, toured the course in a time of 25:20 for 21st place at Quinter, and 28:52 for 8th place at Leoti.

Brewster's lone varsity lady performer is Andrie Baird.

She placed 43rd at Quinter with a 19:31 time; and 26th at Leoti with a 19:51 time.

SportsLine

Colby's 'Peek at the Week'

- Today — Jayvee girls golf at Ulysses, tourney, 3 p.m.; 7/8 football with Hoxie at Dennen Field, 4:30; 7/8 volleyball with Hoxie at Colby elementary gym, 4:30., order of matches: 7B/7A/8B/8A; C/JV volleyball with Hays and Norton, 4:30, with "C" matches at the high school gym and JV matches at the Colby Community Building; "C" football at St. Francis, 5:30 p.m. (The "C" football game scheduled with Goodland for this date has been moved to next Thursday, Sept. 25 at Colby starting at 5:30 (CST).
- Friday — Varsity football at Yuma, Colo, 7:30 p.m. (This is a change in time.)
- Saturday — JV girls tennis at WaKeeney tourney, 8:30 a.m. (This was rescheduled from Saturday, Aug. 30 due to rain.); varsity girls tennis at Lindsborg tourney, 9 a.m.; FFA-NW District Softball Tournament at Oakley, 9 a.m.; "C" volleyball at Oberlin tourney, 9 a.m.; JV/varsity volleyball with Hoxie, Oakley and Scott City at Colby, 9 a.m. JV matches in the elementary gym, varsity at the high school gym; cross country at Scott city, 10 a.m.; 7/8 volleyball at Goodland with Burlington and Sharon Springs, 10 a.m. "A" matches in Max Jones Fieldhouse and "B" matches in the junior high gym, (auxiliary to the fieldhouse); 7 "B" football with Goodland at Dennen Field, 10 a.m. There will be no 8th "B" football game.

Brewster's 'Peek at the Week'

- Today — Junior high volleyball vs Wheatland in Brewster, 3 p.m.; junior high football vs. Wheatland at Brewster, 4:30 p.m.; cross country at WaKeeney, 5 p.m.
- Friday — High school varsity football at Sharon Springs, 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday — High school volleyball triangular at Atwood (varsity and junior varsity) 10 a./m.

Golden Plains 'Peek at the Week'

- Today — Middle school volleyball and football at Bird City, 4 p.m.
- Friday — High school football at home vs. Jennings, 7:30 p.m.
- Saturday — High school volleyball at Grainfield, 9 a.m.

Colby College 'Peek at the Week'

- Friday — Trojan volleyball at McCook, 5 p.m.
- Cross country's next outing is scheduled for Sept. 27 at the Tabor Invitational at Hillsboro, 10 a.m.

Outdoors skills day is Saturday

Youth Outdoors Skills Day will be held on Saturday for kids 15 or younger with valid hunter education card. Kids 10 years or younger should be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Youth can participate in skills like shotgunning, archery, compass and map reading, muzzleloaders and game calling. A buffalo burger meal will be served. For information or registration, call (785) 462-3367 or (785) 462-7602.

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